

4-11-2008

GSU Communication Disorders Program Reaccredited Through 2015

Office of Public Affairs

Follow this and additional works at: http://opus.govst.edu/press_releases

Recommended Citation

Office of Public Affairs, "GSU Communication Disorders Program Reaccredited Through 2015" (2008). *Press Releases*. Paper 349.
http://opus.govst.edu/press_releases/349

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Press Releases by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact opus@govst.edu.



Faculty & Staff

A-Z Index

Home

Directions

Class Schedule

GSU Online

Bookstore

Library

Alumni

Directory

Public Affairs

SUCCESS BY DEGREES

Apply

About GSU

Degree Programs

Registration & Financial Aid

Student Services

News & Events

The Office of Marketing and Communications

Public Affairs Services

Events

Production Procedures

Image Standards

Font and Typeface Guidelines

Editorial Style Guide

Downloads

Photography

Recent Press Releases

Archived Press Releases

Contact Us

Date: April 11, 2008

Contact: Eric Matanyi

Governors State University

Phone: (708) 534-4044

Fax: (708) 534-8399

Email: e-matanyi@govst.edu

For Immediate Release

GSU Communication Disorders Program Reaccredited Through 2015

University Park, IL, April 11, 2008 – The College of Health Professions at Governors State University announced today that its Master of Health Science in Communication Disorders (CDIS) program has been reaccredited through 2015. The degree is the entry-level degree for speech-language pathologists.

The program's reaccreditation comes from the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA), which is part of American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

Dr. William Yacullo, chair of the college's Department of Communication Disorders, explained that the CAA accredits programs that prepare individuals for entry into the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology.

The college's dean, Dr. Linda Samson, said, "While Governors State University is itself accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, many academic programs, particularly those that prepare students for careers in the health and human services professions, require accreditation by their professional organizations."

For speech-language pathologists, graduation from an appropriately accredited program is a requirement when graduates apply for national credentials in the field.

The CAA's reaccreditation process was rigorous. Yacullo said the program's curriculum and faculty were examined, literally, course-by-course to ensure that graduates of the program attain the skills and knowledge essential for independent professional practice.

He explained that the process culminated in what is known as a "site visit" from the accrediting body. Site visits bring experts in the profession to the campus of a program that is seeking accreditation or reaccreditation. These experts review the program, and the institution that houses it, to identify its strengths and weaknesses.

Yacullo said the site team that evaluated GSU and the Communication Disorders program identified the program's practicum system as a strength.

He said, "The site visitors reported that the program's clinical education placements 'revealed an extensive and varied number of clinical settings, populations, age groups, culturally-linguistic diverse populations, and breadth of the scope of practice'."

The program is known for its unique practicum system. It was the first, and now is one of only a few, accredited speech-language pathology programs in the nation requiring students to obtain all their clinical experience in actual work settings outside the university.

Most programs house on-site clinics in which students work to gain clinical experience. But GSU is different. The CDIS program's former chair, Professor Emeritus Jay Lubinsky, who helped develop the program, said the decision to make students gain clinical experiences outside the university-setting was deliberate.

"When you don't have a clinic [on your campus], you have to establish the program in the community," Lubinsky said, adding that integrating the program into the community has always been one of the program's mandates. "We don't compete with the community's resources. We support them."

Copyright © 2013 [Governors State University](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)
1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois 60484-0975
708.534.5000 | [E-mail Us](#)